

## INSIDE

Miss Elba  
Pageants set for  
Saturday evening



"Serving Elba and Coffee County  
for more than 125 Years!"  
Est. 1897

## INSIDE

Baseball seasons  
underway locally



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 126, Number 40 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, February 23, 2023 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

During Feb. 13th Elba City Council meeting

## Pay raise announced for patrol officers

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba City Council continues to search for a contractor to possibly renovate a downtown square building to house the Elba Chamber of Commerce office, but during the Monday, Feb. 13, council meeting Mayor Tom Maddox said he was still waiting on another proposal before moving forward.

Maddox said he had received one quote on renovating the proposed property [old dime store building] on Davis Street, but that quote for renovations was more than the insurance funds available from the old Chamber building that burned. He said he was still waiting on one more quote from a contractor that had looked at the building.

Hopefully, we can have something more concrete to look at by the next meeting," Maddox said.

He added that some additional options had become available to the city for the Chamber office, but he thought it would be best for now to wait and see what happens with the quotes for renovating the Davis Street building.

Upon recommendation of the mayor, council members voted to abolish the Abatement Committee. Maddox said that committee, which was established

in 2013, had not met or been active in quite some time.

He said it was originally established because the city did not have a code enforcement officer at the time, but there is a code enforcement officer employed now.

The mayor provided updates on two economic development projects still being sought for the city. Using code names, he said "Project Sunbeam" is still moving forward with that company adamant in wanting to locate in Elba.

As for Project Viking, the council voted to enter an executive session to discuss a contract for that potential economic development project. Mayor Maddox indicated that he feels an announcement is on the horizon for this project, but the company wanted to wait

and make the announcement itself at the appropriate time.

In her report to council member, city clerk Sally Bane announced that hourly patrol officers with the Elba Police Department had received a \$1 per hour pay increase, and she said a company was set to come last week to inspect the levee gate on the Pea River bridge.

Also, Bane said the Putnam Street and Woodland Drive culvert repair projects were ahead of schedule. She added that water has been flowing very well again through the Putnam Street culvert.

City officials met recently with the architect on plans

See ELBA, Page 3



**TWO-VEHICLE WRECK CLAIMS ONE LIFE...**Emergency responders were dispatched Tuesday, Feb. 14, to the scene of this two-vehicle wreck on Alabama Highway 87, near the 49-mile marker [approximately 16 miles north of Elba in Coffee County]. The head-on collision occurred at approximately 4:25 p.m., according to authorities. As emergency responders arrived on scene they determined both drivers of the vehicles had sustained critical injuries, and two air ambulances were requested for patient transport. Two days after the wreck, Dennis Edward Murphy, age 70, of Opp, died from injuries sustained in the accident. He was driving the 2021 Volkswagen Atlas that collided head-on with a 2020 Ford F-150, driven by Jeremy Clayton Powell, age 44, of Brundidge, Ala. According to Alabama State Troopers, neither Murphy nor Powell were wearing seat belts at the time of the accident. Powell remains hospitalized receiving treatment for his injuries. The accident was investigated by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's Highway Patrol Division.

(photo shared by Elba Volunteer Fire Department)

## 2nd Annual Rumble on the River

## Professional wrestling event returns to Elba High School

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Live action wrestling will return to Elba High School Friday, March 3, with professional TNA Impact Wrestling delivering the entertainment.

The 2nd Annual Rumble on the River wrestling event will be Friday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m., in the Elba High School gymnasium.

"These are all contract wrestlers through the WWE," event organizer Al Gilmore said. "This is basically a minor league farm system for professional wrestlers. They are all 'under contract' wrestlers working their way up to 'prime time' or returning from an injury."

He said one of the main stars for Elba's "Rumble on the River" upcoming wrestling event will be TNA Impact Wrestling/WWE superstar Johnny Swinger. Other 'big' names coming to this year's event include WWE/TNA superstar DOINK the Clown, and Lucha Libre Superstar Antonio Garza.

"Last year's event was phenomenal, but this year is going to be even bigger and better," Gilmore said. "These guys mentioned are just a few of the awesome wrestlers set to come to Elba High School this year."

Gilmore said these TNA Impact Wrestling events are 100 percent family-friendly,

legit wrestling events.

Elba City Clerk Sally Bane and her family were among the many attendees for last year's event. The Bane family sat ringside for Rumble on the River, and she said her entire family loved the event.

"It was the best night of the year by far," Bane said.

"I've already requested our ringside seats again for this year's event."

Bane said the wrestling event was highly entertaining, and she loved how interactive the wrestlers were with the fans, especially all the youngsters in attendance. She said it had to be one of the best events that has ever come to Elba.

"My family and friends were very impressed with this group of entertainers also because they spoke of their Christianity throughout the event," Bane said. "It was uplifting to say the least. I highly recommend that all come out and enjoy the fun this year."

Tickets for the 2nd Annual Rumble on the River are on sale now online at GoFan.co - just search Elba High School events. Ringside tickets are \$20 each [there is a limited number available for ringside], and general admission tickets are \$10 each.

There will be concessions available during the event also, including hamburgers, hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, candy, and Pepsi products.

Some tickets will be available for purchase the night of the event, Gilmore said; however, he said it is possible the ringside tickets could sell out prior to the event date since those are first come, first serve. Doors should open around 6:30 p.m. at the Elba High School gym on March 3rd, and wrestling begins at 7:30 p.m.

All proceeds from this event will benefit the Elba High School football program. For more information, contact Al Gilmore at (334) 744-5555 or call Elba High School.

## NOTICE:

The "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets every Monday night at the Rabbit Hole, 218 Factory Ave., Elba, beginning at 6 p.m.

This is a safe, confidential space to talk, network and grow in recovery.

For more information, contact Rory Vignola on Facebook.

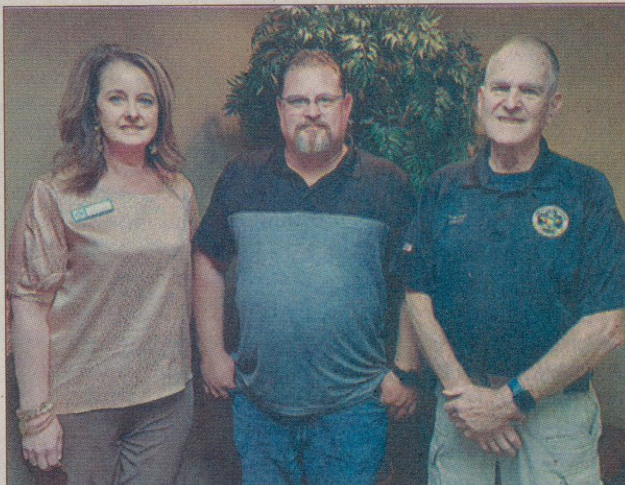
## Coffee County Sheriff's Deputies speak about Project Lifesaver

If a person with Alzheimer's disease, autism, Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injuries or cognitive impairments should wander away from a caregiver, the Coffee County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) can track them through a program called Project Lifesaver.

Project Lifesaver was started in 1999, by Virginia resident Gene Saunders. Project Lifesaver has used radio tracking and locating technology to save the lives of more than 5,000 people who wandered away and became lost.

Project Lifesaver is funded in Coffee County by the Luncheon Pilot Club of Enterprise, and club members work with Coffee County Sheriff Scott Byrd and his deputies to make sure people who wander away in Coffee County can be found quickly and efficiently.

The CCSO is provided wrist or ankle bracelets equipped with a small transmitter that emits a signal that law enforcement officials can track when someone goes missing. The bracelets, batteries for the bracelets and necessary tracking equipment are funded by the Luncheon Pilot Club of Enterprise to make sure no one in the county who has



Shown in photo from left, LPCE President Brandy Woodham, Coffee County Reserve Deputies Calvin Bookout and Tom Iten.

a brain-related disease can wander off and not be found.

This is a free service for any caregiver of a person who has the listed diseases. When Project Lifesaver gets a request from a caregiver, the caregiver will be given a box and a bracelet.

Calvin Bookout, a Reserve Deputy with the CCSO, who administers this program, changes the wrist bands and the batteries in each bracelet monthly and keeps a log on each client. Bookout currently has 14 clients, and a 15th is to be added this week.

If a client wearing the bracelet wanders away and gets lost, Bookout has the

capability of tracking that person. It is all about finding a person missing as soon as possible, as that sometimes means the difference between life and death.

Statistics on Alzheimer patients indicate 60 percent of people with the disorder wander and become lost, 75 percent are repeat wanderers and 46 persons may die if not found within 24-hours. Using the advanced special rescue techniques, Project Lifesaver has been instrumental in increasing efficiency of public safety agencies by reducing costs, saving valuable man-hours, and providing preventive help for persons in need.

## Area Happenings

**The Elba Chamber of Commerce and Southeast Alabama Works will host** an ELBA Neighborhood Job Fair on Thursday, March 2, from 2-4 p.m. at Elba High School. This is open to the public. Space is limited to 25 employers. Register at: <https://seaw.me/ElbaJobFair2023>

**The Evergreen Cemetery Board will meet** Thursday, March 2, at 6 p.m. at Elba City Hall, 200 Buford St., Elba. This meeting is open to the public.

**The Elba Lions Club will host** its annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser Saturday, March 4, from 6-10 a.m., at the National Security Group Conference Center. A donation of \$5 per plate is requested. Dine-in or takeout.



EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Books give a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything" – Plato

Former President Jimmy Carter, age 98, is in Hospice care at his home in Plains, Georgia following several medical issues that have hospitalized him in recent months. He reportedly said he wanted to be at home for his final days. Carter only served one term as president and disappointed many voters - well he disappointed enough Americans that he was not re-elected. Our parents were disappointed when we didn't vote for Carter the first time around and again disappointed the second time around because we DID vote for Jimmy Carter. (They thought he didn't do enough for the farmers). However, he utilized his position as a former president of the United States to really leave a mark on society. He and his wife have inspired millions to work on medical, housing and other public needs, and he remains a strong advocate for 'peace' all over the world, marking him as one of, if not 'THE' best former president, at least in modern times.

Our sitting president recently made a secret, surprise visit to war torn Ukraine. Politicians often make trips to these stressed-out areas 'to boost the confidence of the local residents', etc. It usually does that but at what cost? Wartime visits take soldiers from the war effort to protect the VIP. Following floods, tornados, and other disasters it delays relief workers in their desperately needed work, and increases security issues as well. It is hard to really know if these visits are worth the cost in such stressful times.

Th talk about the next Presidential election is virtually about Republican candidates, with little mention of any Democrat candidate (if any) except President Biden. Of course that is probably because of former president Donald Trump and his announced plans of vying for another term and/or the potential Republicans who may, or may not, challenge him for the nomination. Probably the most interesting part right now is listening for the new nicknames Donald Trump puts on any person mentioned as a potential opponent in the presidential race. All that stuff prompts news reporting and keeps his name before the voters. It is also amusing to one day read editorial opinions about "Nobody can beat Trump" and the next day read an opinion from someone else opining that "Trump can't win". We have no insight that will clear up that set of diverse opinions and are sure we will be tired of the outrageous claims and counterclaims that will be heard between now and election day. It is going to be a l-o-o-o-n-g campaign.


We commented last week about the problems associated with gun control laws. During the weekend we read that the U. S. Supreme court has struck down many antigun laws already on the books, some as long as forty/sixty years! Now some state laws that ban certain guns, domestic abusers from owning guns, removing serial numbers from guns, felons from owning guns, etc., are unconstitutional!

Be safe, wear your mask when appropriate, social distance, wash your hands AND get the shot(s) and/or boosters (the newest one)!



Dear Citizens of Elba,  
I am grateful to have had the opportunity to represent this great city as Little Miss Elba 2022. We truly live in the best city. Thank you all for the love and support you gave me this year.

It is Always Great to Be an Elba Tiger,  
Bella Bane  
Little Miss Elba 2022



Dear Citizens of Elba,  
I am grateful to have had the opportunity to represent the City of Elba as Miss Elba 2022. We truly live in the best city. Thank you all for the love and support you gave me this year.

It is Always Great to Be an Elba Tiger,  
Zalie McKelvy  
Miss Elba 2022

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, and Monday, Feb. 20, 2023, conducted the following activity:

**Tuesday, Feb. 14** – Harassing communications reported to Elba Police (8:30 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 2885 Taylor Mill Rd (9:07 a.m.); Identity theft reported at 103 Adkinson Ave (1:37 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1560 Reese Ave – w/impound (2:11 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 5743 County Rd 410 (2:41 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 638 N Claxton Ave (4:21 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 638 N Claxton Ave (4:40 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in two written warnings.

**Wednesday, Feb. 15** – Animal complaint reported

at 1525 Jones St (7:09 a.m.). Eleven traffic stops resulted in five verbal warnings, two written warnings, and four citations.

**Thursday, Feb. 16** – Animal complaint reported at 115 County Rd 367 – w/impound (9:28 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at Adams and West streets (2:33 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 420 Plant Ave (3:25 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 702 Newton St (3:32 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in two verbal warnings.

**Friday, Feb. 17** – Traffic accident reported on Hwy 84 (9:58 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 990 Hwy 203 (4:42 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1740 Hwy 166 (9:41 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1110 Neil Grantham Dr (10:23 p.m.). Four traffic stops resulted in one written warning, one citation, one assistance rendered, and one verbal warning.

**Saturday, Feb. 18** – Suspicious vehicle reported at Hwy 203 and Hickman Ave (11:14 a.m.); Report of shots fired on Boswell St (8:53 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in one verbal warning, and one arrest.

**Sunday, Feb. 19** – Harassment reported at 111 Guyton St (3:32 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 834 Washington Ave (4:31 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1131 Guyton St. (8:25 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at Farris/Martin Luther King Dr (8:58 p.m.). Three traffic stops resulted in two verbal warnings, and one citation.

**Monday, Feb. 20** – Disturbance reported at 1229 Caroline St (12:02 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 203 (12:17 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 838 N Claxton Ave (3:23 p.m.); Disturbance report-ed' at 6737 County Rd 410 (3:37 p.m.); Sexual assault/rape reported on County Rd 505 (7:11 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

It is not secret that Sister is a wee 'geographically challenged' but the extent of that challenge still manages to amaze Cuzin Lou Lou from time-to-time. A conversation the two had one day last week confirmed that once again!

Sister was explaining a situation to Lou Lou, and she noted that a person was spending time in either Cincinnati or Connecticut. Sister couldn't remember which was the correct place.

Knowing Sister's tendencies to get cities and states confused, Lou Lou tried to cut Sister off mid-conversation to clarify the difference between the two...

Sister, however, never slowed down in telling her story, and she followed up with, "Actually, I'm not sure if it's Cincinnati or Connecticut, but it is one of those 'C' states."

Yep...there it was. Solid proof as to why Lou Lou encourages Sister to never engage in geographic conversations without Lou Lou being nearby to check her data first!

Lou Lou stopped Sister at that point, and said, "You do realize that Cincinnati is a city in Ohio while Connecticut is a state... right?"

Sister responded, "Oh! Well...it's Connecticut then!" She never missed a beat! What in the name of Yonder happened to Sister when it came to geography. Lou Lou is convinced Sister was painting her nails or something during this class in school because she definitely did not absorb the materials being taught by

the teachers.

The "C" state comment would not have been quite so bad, but this is not the first time Sister has gotten her cities and states mixed up.

Several years ago, she was trying to tell a friend about a pending trip the Yonder gang was potentially going to make.

Her explanation went something like – "We are going to either Milwaukee or Wisconsin one, but I can't remember which."

Unfortunately, Lou Lou was not around when Sister made that statement, and she only heard about it after the fact. Good news was, it was a dear friend that Sister was talking with so she did not embarrass Sister badly over the mistake.

When Sister told Lou Lou about the mishap later that evening, Lou Lou said, "Please tell me you are joking! You do know that Milwaukee is a city in the state of Wisconsin, right?"

Sister just looked at her and replied, "I do now!"

That was the day when Lou Lou told Sister she was no longer allowed to have conversations regarding geography with other if Lou Lou was not there to stop her from saying such things...unfortunately, it did not stop Sister from continuing to give Lou Lou plenty to laugh about when the two are alone.

As Lou Lou was laughing and shaking her head over Sister's most recent geography blunder – the "C" states, she decided that while Sister is extremely smart and talented in many ways, her elevator stops a few floors short from the top when it comes to geography. And, Sister had no choice but agree!

We won't even get into the time Sister wondered how in the world an Alaskan cruise could depart from Washington...yeah, the state of Washington never even crossed her mind. Instead, she was thinking of Washington, D.C.

It's never dull when Sister is around...that is for certain!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!



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# Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com)

## FRANCIS WILLIAM "BILLY" ENGLISH

Mr. Francis William "Billy" English, age 91, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2023, at his residence.

Billy was born May 10, 1931 in the Bradshaw community and attended primary school at Damascus. After graduating from Elba High School, he joined the United States Navy in 1950 during the Korean War. Billy was an active member of the Elba Church of Christ where he served as an elder for several years.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, from the Liberty Church of Christ Cemetery with Minister Philip Box officiating and Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing. The family asks that memorial contributions be made in the name of Billy English to the Elba Church of Christ, Agape of Central Alabama or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Billy was preceded in death by his wife, Edna; father, Francis Marion English; mother, Willie Pearl Donaldson English; and sister, Mary Helen English Mack.

Survivors include his three children: Fran Jackson (Keith), Huntsville, Ala.; Russ English (Ashley), Elba; and Todd English (Blanca) of Columbia, SC; nine grandchildren: Francie Baker (Trent), Meredith Dubose (Jerry), Rebecca Dear (Bryson), Zach English, Katie Haggard (Jerome), Hannah Medders (Cole), Rhiannon English,

Madison English, and Ethan English. He also was the proud great-grandfather of eight: four boys and four girls.

## JAMES TRAVIS SPURLIN

Mr. James Travis Spurlin, age 80, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023, at Flowers Hospital in Dothan, Ala.

Funeral services were held Monday, Feb. 20, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Leon Fortune and Rev. Larry Wise officiating. Burial services followed in the Shiloh Baptist Church cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

James was preceded in death by his wife, Pam Spurlin; mother, Maudie Ree Spurlin; and sister, Myra Gene Long.

Survivors include his daughter: Jana Hutchinson, Kinston, Ala.; grandsons: Brandon Hutchinson, Elba, and Justin Hutchinson, Enterprise, Ala.; and brother-in-law: Jeff Smith, Enterprise.

## LARRY "SCOTT" CROSBY

Mr. Larry "Scott" Crosby, age 59, died peacefully in the early afternoon Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023, at his home in Kinston, Ala.

Scott was the first child born to Larry Crosby and Joyce Davis Hinson (formerly Crosby) on Nov. 13, 1963, in Florida, Ala. He attended Florida City Schools and graduated from Florida High School in 1981. He attended Lurleen B. Wal-

lace Community College and Auburn University, where he graduated with a degree in poultry science in 1997.

While Scott held various jobs, he realized his true calling when he became a teacher at 40. As a teacher, he had a notorious stubborn streak evident in his refusal to give up on his students.

Of Scott's many titles, one of his favorites was "Coach." He coached a youth league or school sport each of the last 25 years.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023, at 6 p.m. from the Chapel of Wyatt Funeral Home in Opp, Ala., with Shaun Moore officiating. Lifelong friend Joey Jackson shared special memories during the service. The family received friends at the funeral home Wednesday from 5 p.m. until service time.

Memorial donations may be made to Cancer Freeze at [www.cancerfreeze.org](http://www.cancerfreeze.org) or may be mailed to: Cancer Freeze, P.O. BOX 92, Florida, AL 36442.

Scott was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Ashley Renee Crosby, and his mother, Joyce Davis Hinson.

Survivors include the love of his life, his wife: Tami Weeks Crosby, Kinston; sons: Adam Crosby, Enterprise and Jeb Crosby, Kinston; daughter: Kaitlan Crosby Stacks (Clay), Red Level, Ala.; granddaughter: Raylan Stacks; grandson: Ronan Stacks; father: Larry

Crosby (Nancy), Andalusia, Ala.; and brother, Michael Crosby (Kim), Florida.

## JUDY GRISSETT WEBER

Mrs. Judy Grissett Weber, age 71, of Jack, Ala., died Monday, Feb. 20, 2023, at Flowers Hospital in Dothan, Ala.

Funeral services will be held at Spring Hill Baptist Church on Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023, at 2 p.m., with Rev. Bo Deloney officiating. Burial services will follow in the Wambles Family Cemetery (located behind the Jack Assembly of God Cemetery). Visitation will be at Spring Hill Baptist Church on Thursday from 12 noon - 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Springhill Baptist Church Activities Fund, 2157 Alabama Highway 167, Brundidge, AL, 36010.

Ms. Judy was preceded in death by her husband - Kirk Weber, and her parents - William Henry Wambles and Minnie Wambles.

Survivors include her daughters: April (Dave) Schulz, and Leah (Rodney) Allen, both of Jack; son: Gary (Cheryl) Grissett, also of Jack; brothers: Buddy (Jane) Wambles, Jack, and Charles (Cindy) Wambles, Birmingham, Ala.; sisters: Mae (Ronnie) Rainey, Troy, Ala., Joyce (O'Neal) Sanders, Henrietta (Terry) Allen, and Annette (Ray) Parker, all of Jack, and Loumerle Norton, Phenix City, Ala.; grandsons: Corey (Chasity) Grissett, Matthew (Kayla) Schultz, and Baylon Napper; granddaughters: Amber (Jonas) Simmons, Madison (Judson) Lewis, Taylor (Taylor) Morgan, Carlee Wright, Ashley (Drew) Schultz, and Reilly Schultz; great-granddaughters: Angel Grissett, Emma Grissett, and Alaina Simmons.

## Card of Thanks

### Terry Family

Thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards, and floral arrangements.

The Family of Natalie (Nikki) Terry and Friends  
2/23-pd

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### How Do I Choose the Right Cemetery?

As you plan for the burial of a deceased loved one, you'll need to address a few basic questions - and the first of those questions is where? Often, individuals purchase cemetery plots well before they die. In other cases, they may leave behind a will or other document stipulating where they wish their final resting place to be. Occasionally, though, it will be up to surviving family members to select a suitable cemetery.

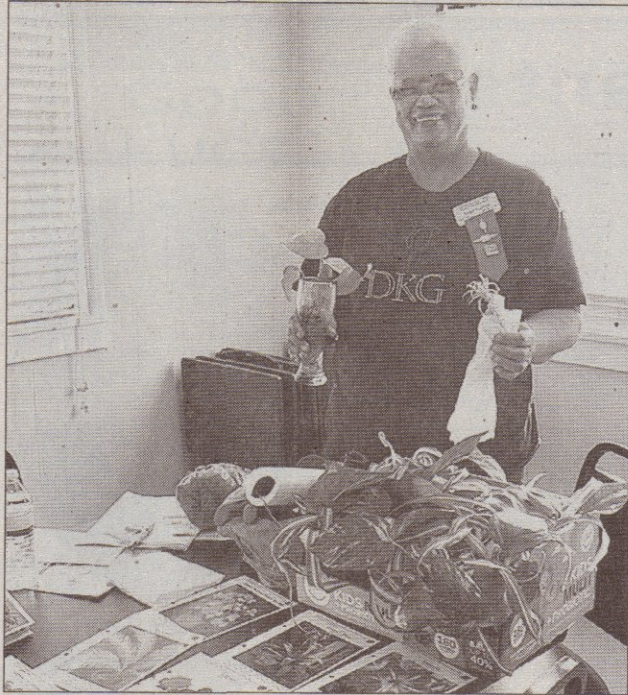
If your loved one was a military veteran, you may wish to look into VA cemeteries near you. Also consider that most cemeteries have veteran sections, which should provide you with plenty of options for personalization. If your loved one adhered to a particular religion, it may be worth investigating cemeteries associated with that faith tradition. Otherwise, you'll probably just want to find a public cemetery. A good starting place is to ask your funeral director for a recommendation.

If your loved one is to be cremated, it's important to find a cemetery that offers either a columbarium or an urn garden, or at least one that permits urns to be buried in traditional plots. (Most do, but it doesn't hurt to verify.) In researching local cemeteries, make sure you ask about the cost as well as any maintenance fees associated with the plot. Also ask what the cemetery will do to maintain the gravesite, and what your responsibilities will be as the family member. Finally, ask if there are any restrictions or stipulations on the kinds of casket that are permitted.

Again, as you navigate this important decision, don't hesitate to seek counsel from your funeral director, who will be able to help you locate the cemetery that best aligns with your needs and your loved one's final wishes.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at [hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net](mailto:hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net)

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225



**GARZA SPEAKS TO DELTA KAPPA GAMMA...** Fran Garza, a member of the Coffee County Master Gardeners Association, recently spoke at a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting about plants. She had prepared plant cuttings for each attendee and spoke with them about proper soil composition, how to prepare cuttings to be rooted and the care of the plant once it has established itself.

## BINGO

Come Join the FUN!

Meets every Monday & Wednesday (10:00-11:00) starting March 6, 2023 at the Elba Senior Center (334) 897-3019

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## ELBA

(Continued from Page 1)

for the Elba Recreation Center renovations. Bane said the next thing for this project is for plans to go to the structural and electrical engineers, and once those engineers sign off on the plans, the project will be let out for bids.

"The goal is to have the recreation center back open by next basketball season," Bane said.

The city council approved a Proclamation recognizing the month of February as Career Technical Education Month, and Mayor Maddox presented the proclamation to the Elba Career Academy on Thursday of last week (as pictured to the right).

The next Elba City Council meeting will be Monday, Feb. 27, at 5:30 p.m.



Elba Mayor Tom Maddox presents a Proclamation to the Elba Career Academy at Elba High School recognizing the month of February as Career Technical Education Month. The proclamation was passed by the Elba City Council at its Monday, Feb. 13, meeting. Accepting on behalf of the school is Faith Adock, Zalie McKelvy and Clayton Parker.

## Card of Thanks

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Thank you for your prayers, calls, visits, flowers and food. Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.

A special "Thank You" to Dr. Lance K. Dyess and First Choice Hospice for your care and compassion.

The Family of J.L. Johnson

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## 2023 Miss Elba Pageants

### 2023 Miss Elba Pageants set for Saturday, Feb. 25th

The 2023 Miss Elba Pageants are set for Saturday evening, Feb. 25, and will be held from the Elba High School auditorium, beginning at 5 p.m.

Queens will be crowned in seven categories, to include: Future Little Miss Elba, Little Miss Elba, Petite Miss Elba, Young Miss Elba, Teen Miss Elba, Junior Miss Elba, and Miss Elba.

Also, during the pageants, the reigning 2022 Miss Elba Queens will have their fairwell walks.

General admission is \$7, but visiting queens from the area will be admitted free of charge.



Aubrie Sims  
Future Little Miss contestant



Ava Astemborski  
Future Little Miss contestant



Elizabeth Johnson  
Future Little Miss contestant



Eva Claire Moore  
Future Little Miss contestant



Ella Harper Pugh  
Little Miss contestant



Harper Colins Hall  
Little Miss contestant



Kayleigh Smith  
Little Miss contestant



Olivia Grantham  
Petite Miss contestant



Parrish Grantham  
Petite Miss contestant



Ellison Eldridge  
Young Miss contestant



Mary Elizabeth James  
Young Miss contestant



Hillary Hudson  
Teen Miss contestant



Payton Parks  
Teen Miss contestant



Shaylee Johnson  
Teen Miss contestant



Keele Moseley  
Junior Miss contestant



Destinee Tidwell  
Miss contestant



Faith Adcock  
Miss contestant



Haylee Marie Tucker  
Miss contestant



2022 Little Miss Elba  
You've Made Us Proud!  
2022 Little Miss Elba  
Bella Bane  
We Love You! Dad, Mom, Powell & Jacks



"Good Luck" Baby Girl!  
Aubrie Sims  
Future Little Miss Elba  
Contestant #1  
We Love You!  
Mom, Dad, & Brothers



"Good Luck"  
Miss Elba Contestant #1  
Destinee Tidwell  
From,  
Coach Johnson, Mrs. Kerry  
and Brady



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
Best Wishes,  
Sweet Girl!  
Ava Astemborski  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #2  
Love, Nana



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
Good Luck,  
Elizabeth!  
Love,  
Tita and Paw Paw  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #4



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Good Luck"  
Teen Miss Elba Contestant #3  
Shaylee Johnson  
From,  
Uncle Glen & Aunt Kerry



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Good Luck" to  
Aubrie Sims!  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant  
We Love You!  
Nana, Yak Yak & A'Lyric



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Best of Luck"  
Faith Adcock  
Miss Elba Contestant #3  
We Love You!  
Brandon & Lara



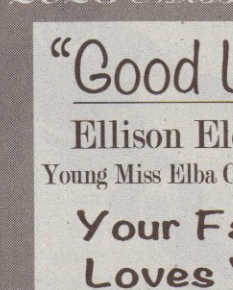
2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
Good Luck, Sister!  
Kayleigh Smith  
Little Miss Elba contestant #3  
Love,  
Daddy, Mama  
Ashton & Braxton



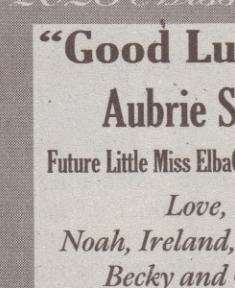
2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Good Luck"  
Olivia Grantham  
Petite Miss Elba  
Contestant #2  
Love You! Pop



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
Good Luck, Elizabeth!  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #4  
We are so  
proud of you!  
Love,  
Mama and Daddy



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Good Luck"  
Ellison Eldridge  
Young Miss Elba Contestant #1  
Your Family  
Loves You!



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
"Good Luck" to  
Aubrie Sims  
Future Little Miss Elba Contestant #1  
Love,  
Noah, Ireland, Ashton,  
Becky and Cory



2023 Miss Elba Pageants  
You Got This!  
Faith Adcock  
Miss Elba Contestant #3  
Love! Mom, Dad & Jude

Good Luck to all the Miss Elba Pageant Contestants!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT,

The Elba Clipper



*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**GOOD LUCK!**  
Future Little Miss Elba Contestant #1  
**Aubrie Sims**  
Love,  
Mrs. Kathleen and Family

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**Good Luck, Ava!**  
Smile Big!  
Ava Astemborski  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #2  
Love, Ma and Pa

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**Good Luck, Baby Girl!**  
Future Little Miss Elba Contestant #1  
**Aubrie Sims**  
We Love You Always,  
Ms. Jessica

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**"Good Luck"**  
Olivia Grantham  
Petite Miss Elba Contestant #2  
Love You!  
Dalton & Colin

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**Good Luck, Elizabeth!**  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #4  
We Love You!  
Nana and Pop

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**You Got This!**  
Faith Adecock  
Miss Elba Contestant #3  
Love! Mom, Dad & Jude

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**"Good Luck" Bay Bay!**  
Future Little Miss Elba Contestant #1  
**Aubrie Sims**  
Love,  
T.T. and Quavo

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**"Smile BIG!"**  
Olivia Grantham  
Petite Miss Elba Contestant #2  
Love You Always!  
Mom and Dad

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**"Good Luck"**  
Ava Astemborski  
Future Little Miss Elba contestant #2  
Love, Aunt T.T.

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

**"Good Luck" Beautiful!**  
Aubrie Sims  
Future Little Miss Elba Contestant #1  
Love,  
Uncle Trey & T.T.

*2023 Miss Elba Pageants*

## CHURCH & LIFESTYLES

### PASTOR'S CORNER

by Dwight Johnson, Pastor  
Elba First Assembly of God

Calendars. Years ago, I had them on my wall at home and my desk at church. Then, a little later, I started carrying one in my pocket. Now, all days and events to remember are on my phone. It's very handy, and easy to reference. But, at times I wonder: Is my calendar serving me, or am I serving it?

Calendars get full in a hurry. Places to go. Things to do. My personal concern, though, is: Does filling my calendar with the important crowd out the essential? Am I neglecting things I must do because of too many things that I think I should do? When that happens, we are truly serving our calendar. It is telling us what to do. It's time for some evaluation.

The most important thing we must do, even though it might not actually be on our calendar, is to spend time with God and his Word, the Bible. Even Jesus himself would often separate himself from his disciples, go to a private place, and spend time in prayer. If Jesus needed this regular time of spiritual recharging, how much more do we? We can't, in a spiritual sense, be like the person who thinks they can drive "just a little farther" with their low fuel light on. Living spiritually empty is far more foolish and dangerous. We absolutely must prioritize time with God, and stay spiritually full. As we do this, part of our spiritual time management should include time of saying nothing to God, and listening intently to him. We know how it is when someone does all the talking and none of the listening. Let's not be that person - especially to God. Talk to him, but listen also.

It is also essential that we spend time with our family. Children grow up and move out. The elderly pass on. As someone who has family on another continent, let me strongly urge you to find a way to spend quality time with your family. As I said earlier: Other things may be important, but this is essential! Your family is a gift from God! If there has been hurt, work as much as possible toward restoration. Believe God for relational healing.

Your church is essential, and making time for it is critical to your spiritual health. Yes, churches are imperfect. Yes, they have issues. But, they are designed by God to be places of healing and restoration. So, they will all have imperfect people. In fact every person in every church is imperfect. That's why we all need the healing that comes from our regular attendance, participation, and support. In Hebrews 10:25, the writer urged "...let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another..."

Check your calendar. Evaluate your calendar. What time are you giving God, your family, and your church?



**Basin Baptist Church held a Mardi Gras themed winter social event last Saturday evening, Feb. 18, and Jearl and Bertie Boland were crowned the "King and Queen" for the event. The couple reigned over the evening's activities after receiving the crowns. Basin Baptist Church is located on Hwy 189 S in the Basin Community of Coffee County. All are welcome to come worship at the church - Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. with Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday, and Wednesday Night Bible Study starts at approximately 6:40 p.m. each week following choir practice.**

### Round and About With Eria's Daughter 897-3611



**Scripture:** The end of the wise and the fool. Ecclesiastes 2: 12-26

#### Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Betty Refreege, Melvin/Annie Stallworth, Juanita B. Brooks, Tim Andrews, Shane Williams, Kelly Phillips, Larry Rogers, Yazmin McNair, Gene Culver

#### March Birthdays/Anniversaries

Melissa Margo Kelley 3/9  
Kayawne Wright 3/9  
Gladys Wright 3/9  
Pavielle Reed 3/11  
Jerry McMillian 3/12  
Alfonzy Purvis 3/13 (in memory)  
Tammy Tillis 3/13  
Kenya Adkins 3/13  
Michael A Smith 3/14  
Marion/Joyce S. Jones 3/15 W.A.  
Freddie Robinson 3/16  
Jeraldene Smith 3/16  
Paula Eliard 3/16

#### In Honor of Black History Month -

#### A Look at Three Famous Baseball Players Five-Tool Players

When looking for a future superstar, most baseball scouts seek players that excel in five facets of the game. Those five are hitting for average, hitting for power, base running, throwing, and fielding. Such "five-tool players" are rare, however. In the history of the game, only a handful merit that designation. Willie Mays was one. A lifetime .302 hitter, he had 660 career home runs and collected 3,283 hits along the way. Mays was also a great base runner, stealing 338 bases. "Hammerin' Hank Aaron slugged 755 home runs, drove in 2,297 runs and stole 240 bases while posting a career .305 batting average during his career. Ken Griffey Jr. was named to his league's all-star team 13 times and won seven silver sluggers awards. Other players fall into the five-tool category, but the

#### Vietnam Vets Chapter 373 to meet Feb. 25th

The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 373 will meet Saturday, Feb. 25, at 9 a.m., at the Friends of Army Aviation Hangar in Ozark, Ala., located at 189 Heritage Way, in the conference room.

There will not be an optional breakfast at this meeting, but the meeting is open to members and those that served in the Republic of Vietnam (Feb. 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975) and ear veterans in any duty location between (Aug. 5, 1964 - May 7, 1975) interested in Vietnam veterans' issues.

list is short.

As scouts look for five-tool players, employers look to hire someone who is the "complete package," and we admire a person who seems to "have it all together." But the Bible tells us that there is only one way to be perfectly whole. - Standard Publishing - part of the David C. Cook Family

#### Question / Answer Section

Q/A for the Week of 2/23/23

Fill in the Blanks, Use Your Concordance

Q: Peter offered to forgive a person who sinned against him \_\_\_\_\_ times.

A: Seven [Matthew 18:21]

Q: Jesus said that the scribes and pharisees sit in \_\_\_\_\_ seat.

A: Moses [Matthew 23:2]

Q: Jesus asked, "When the son of man cometh, shall he find \_\_\_\_\_ on the earth."

A: Faith [Luke 18:8]

**Thought to Remember**  
Don't give up: Pray - it works

#### Questions for the Week of 3/2/23

True or False

Q: Some Pharisees circumvented the command to honor parents.

Q: A man in Jesus' parable was forgiven a debt but refuse to forgive another's debt of the same amount.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Eria's Daughter, Sue

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Tom Maddox, superintendent

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

#### TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823  
FAX 334-897-3434  
e-mail clipper@troycable.net

#### DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

#### COST

Only **\$500** per week (first 15 words)  
\* Additional words 20¢ each

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad at any time

#### ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

#### PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

Prepaid personal ads get fourth week **FREE!**  
Bordered classified ad cost **\$5.50** per column inch

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**Lawn Mowers,**  
**Chainsaws, ATV's, Etc.**  
Repair Replacement Parts for most all your outdoor power equipment needs... Belts, Blades, Chains, Bar, Filter, Spark Plugs  
**REPAIR SALES & SERVICE**  
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**New Phone Number**  
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**Randy's Small Motors**  
Elba, AL  
1/12-tfc-chg

### SERVICES

**BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL.** 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. tfc

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Use **ItchNoMore®** shampoo on dogs & cats to relieve secondary dermatitis, treat yeast infections, & eliminate doggy odor. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com)

## LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notices also are posted on the websites: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com) and [www.alabamapublicnotices.com](http://www.alabamapublicnotices.com) at no extra charge

### Notice to Contractors Federal Aid Project No. STPN-1623(250) COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Sealed bids will be received by the Director of Transportation at the office of the Alabama Department of Transportation, Montgomery, Alabama until 10:00 AM on February 24, 2023 and at that time publicly opened for constructing the Planing, Resurfacing, and Traffic Stripe on CR-636 from the junction of SR-87 to the junction of SR-27 south of Enterprise. Length 8.985 mi.

The total amount of uncompleted work under contract to a contractor must not exceed the amount of his or her qualification certificate. The Entire Project Shall Be Completed In Forty (40) Working Days. 9.16.23-chg A 2.00% DBE Contract Obligation Is Required.

A Bidding Proposal may be purchased for \$5.00. Plans may be purchased for \$5.00 per set. Plans and Proposals are available at the Alabama Department of Transportation, 1409 Coliseum Boulevard, Room E-108, Montgomery, AL 36110. Checks should be made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation. Plans and Proposals will be mailed only upon receipt of remittance. No refunds will be made.

Minimum wage rates for this project have been predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and are set forth in the advertised specifications. This project is subject to the contract work hours and Safety Standards Act and its implementing regulations. Cashier's check or bid bond for 5% of bid (maximum - \$50,000.00) made payable to the Alabama Department of Transportation must accompany each bid as evidence of good faith.

The bracket range is shown only to provide general financial information to contractors and bonding companies concerning the project's complexity and size. This Bracket should not be used in preparing a bid, nor will this bracket have any bearing on the decision to award this contract.

The Bracket Estimate On This Project Is From \$1,491,127 To \$1,822,489. The proposed work shall be performed in conformity with the rules and regulations for carrying out the Federal Highway Act. Plans and Specifications are on file in Room E-108 of the Alabama Department of Transportation at Montgomery, Alabama 36110.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of The Alabama Department of Transportation, proposals will be issued only to prequalified contractors or their authorized representatives, upon requests that are received before 10 AM, on the day previous to the day of opening of bids.

The bidder's proposal must be submitted on the complete original proposal furnished him or her by the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The Alabama Department of Transportation, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000D TO 2000D-4 and Title 49 code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of The Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color,

religion, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The right to reject any or all bids is reserved.

**JOHN R. COOPER**  
**Transportation Director**  
2-9,16&23-chg.

### IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

**IN RE: The estate of JAMES CICERO HENDERSON, JR., Deceased.**

Case No.: PC 2023-002

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

Letters of Administration on the Estate of **James Cicero Henderson, Jr.**, deceased, having been granted to **Marsha Hudson**, Administrator, on the 31st day of January, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court, Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Marsha Hudson  
**Marsha Hudson**  
Petitioner

Preston Register, Attorney  
360 N. Oates St.  
Dothan, AL 36303  
334-793-3610  
2/9,16&23-pd.

### IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA IN RE: The Estate of Hubert F. Barbaree, Deceased

Probate Case No. P.C. 2022-26

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTOR

Letters of Testamentary under the Will of said deceased having been granted to Pamela G. Barbaree as Executrix of the Estate of Hubert F. Barbaree on the 7th day of February 2023 by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred. /s/ Jodee R. Thompson, Jodee R. Thompson  
Probate Judge  
2/16,23&3/2-pd

### IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANNIE LEE SHAW, deceased**

CASE NO. PC-2022-083

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY EXECUTRIX

Letters Testamentary under the Last Will and Testament of said deceased having been granted to Betty L. Shiver, on the 14th of February, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Betty L. Shiver  
Betty L. Shiver, Executrix  
2/16,23-3/2-chg

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the construction of **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. STREET RE-**

**SURFACING & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS** in Elba, Alabama will be received by the City of Elba in the meeting room at the City Hall until **10:00 AM, Friday, March 24, 2023**, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud.

The work under the Base Bid generally consists of 1,500 tons of asphalt resurfacing and miscellaneous drainage improvements. The information for Bidders, Form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications, and form of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment Bond, and other Contract Documents may be examined at the City Hall of Elba at 200 Buford Street; Elba, Alabama 36323 and at the office of Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc., 201 East Troy Street, Andalusia, Alabama, 36420.

To be eligible for consideration, bids must be submitted on complete proposals made available by the Owner. Complete digital project bidding documents are available upon an on-line payment of a non-refundable fee of \$40.00 by visiting our website - [www.southernengineeringsolutions.com](http://www.southernengineeringsolutions.com) and clicking the "Currently Bidding" link at the top of the page. A free one-time membership registration with Quest CDN will be required. Please contact [questcdn.com](mailto:questcdn.com) at 952-233-1632 or [info@questcdn.com](mailto:info@questcdn.com) if you require assistance in registration, downloading, or working with this digital project information. Optional complete paper bid documents are available at Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc.; P O Box 610; 201 East Troy Street; Andalusia, Alabama 36420, upon payment of a refundable (if plans are returned in reusable condition within 10 days of bid opening) deposit of \$80.00. Bid documents will be mailed only upon receipt of deposit. If paper option is chosen, checks shall be made payable to Southern Engineering Solutions, Inc. No paper bid documents will be distributed later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled opening of bids.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities.

Each bidder must submit with his bid, security in the amount, form, and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. The successful bidder will be required to submit a 100% performance bond and a 50% payment bond. All bidders must comply with the requirements of the Contractor's Licensing Law of the State of Alabama and be certified for the type of work for which a proposal is submitted. The submission of the Bidders' current State of Alabama license number will be required before his/her bid will be received or considered.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 30 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

**Tom Maddox**  
Mayor  
City of Elba  
2/23-chg.

### The Enterprise Military Support Group meets

on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at the Church on Boll Weevil Circle, located at 2017 Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise, Ala. Anyone who needs to talk about difficult experiences and needs an understanding friend is invited. Call 334-447-2252 for more information.

### HELP WANTED

**The City of Elba is now accepting applications for the position of: Part-Time Seasonal Mosquito Truck Driver**



**Job Summary:** Driving the mosquito truck through the city spraying for mosquitoes from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Qualifications:** Valid Driver's License. Salary: \$7.25 per hour

**Applications are available at:**

Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, AL or at [www.elbaal.gov/job-opportunities](http://www.elbaal.gov/job-opportunities).

All applications should be submitted to City Hall either in person or via email to: [info@elbaal.gov](mailto:info@elbaal.gov).

Opening Date: 02/13/2023 Closing Date: Until Filled  
EOE

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### HEALTH/ BEAUTY

**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!** Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

**ATTENTION: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - \$99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-505-0828.

### EDUCATION

**ATTENTION ACTIVE Duty & Military Veterans!** Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

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COME JOIN THE FUN!

We meet every week!

#### WHEN:

Every Monday & Wednesday starting March 6, 2023

#### WHERE:

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Elba, AL

(You do NOT have to be a member of the senior center to attend BINGOCIZE)  
Contact Donna to sign up  
334-897-3019  
For Questions Call  
SARCOA (334) 793-6843

TIME: 10:00-11:00

For seniors 60 and older



## STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214

[aps@hr.alabama.gov](mailto:aps@hr.alabama.gov)



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES



## SPORTS NEWS

## Views From

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*Our youngest grandson Cannon* got a walker last week to help celebrate turning six months old and is already scooting around the house and learning how to put it in reverse when he hits a dead-end. I have already promised our oldest grandson Lawson he can have my pick-up truck when he turns fifteen. So, since Cannon is now driving himself I guess I may have to find him a set of not so big wheels.

## For what is worth....

\*\*\* *The Elba Lady Tigers* continued their banner season last week and advanced to the south region tournament with a lopsided win over Georgiana. The Lady Tigers got off to a slow start in the win and had their fans a little worried at the half, but broke it open in the third quarter with their tenacious defense and coasted to the win. While their opening round south region contest will have already been played by the time you read this week's column, I am predicting they won the game and moved on to the region finals. This bunch of girls may be young and inexperienced in big game settings, but they play hard and I will be surprised if they don't head up to Birmingham next week to play for a state title.

\*\*\* *The high school baseball and softball seasons* began last week and it was a busy week for all involved. Here at Elba, the Tigers lost both their varsity and junior varsity openers on the road in Samson, while the Lady Tiger junior varsity competed in near freezing temperatures on Friday night and then played three games on Saturday in Ozark, and posted one win after dropping their first three games in walk-off fashion. Now that the seasons have started, the players, coaches and fans will be checking the weather on a daily basis to see what to wear as they head outside.

\*\*\* *The baseball and softball teams in the area* were also busy with tournaments and regular season openers. On the baseball diamond, New Brockton and Kinston both dropped their openers against quality opponents, while in junior varsity action New Brockton posted a couple of wins and Zion Chapel opened with a pair of losses. I look for all the teams in the county to field very talented teams, and will be shocked of all four area teams don't advance to post-season play. As for the girls, all the softball action was involving junior varsity teams last week and all the teams got in a lot of games. Brantley won three straight games at a round-robin tourney and appears to be as good as ever, while Kinston won four games and placed second at a 10-team tournament at Ozark, and while New Brockton lost four games at the Ozark event, the Lady Gamecocks played hard and will be just fine as they get in more practice and game action. It is true that none of the varsity teams have played yet, but after one week of JV action it looks like a fun season ahead for the girls.

\*\*\* *In closing....* The Major League Baseball season is just around the corner and as of now the Atlanta Braves will be nowhere to be found on cable television. The Braves made a switch to Bally Sports last season with promises of riches, but the new network is now in bankruptcy court and it isn't looking good for their fans like me that enjoy watching games on a nightly basis. I have a feeling that the games will be televised, on a pay network, and that means I will have to find something else to watch, or maybe find a new hobby. I have known for years that one day all sports will be on pay only channels, and I guess that time is nearer than I thought. Maybe one day the news networks will be pay only, nah, no one would watch.



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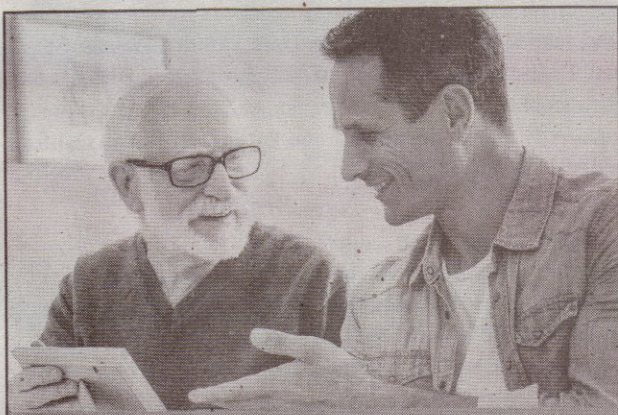
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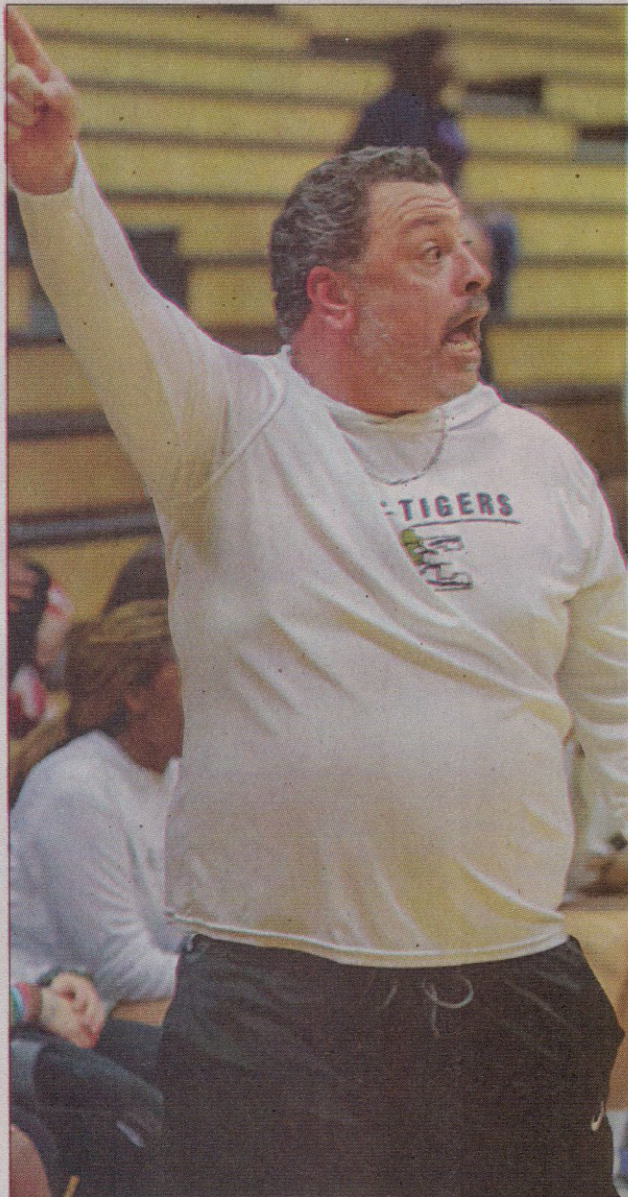


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Elba Lady Tiger sophomore Ana Caldwell (4) dribbles upcourt and eyes the defense in recent basketball action.  
(Photo by BC Sports Photography)



Elba Lady Tiger head coach Shaun Hammonds points to the scoreboard to get his players attention in sub-region play.  
(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

## In sub-region action

## Lady Tigers pound Panthers 55-30

The Elba Lady Tigers continued their post-season surge last Monday night with an exciting 55-30 sub-region win over the Georgiana Lady Panthers, at the Elba High gym.

Elba came out ready to play and behind the scoring of Yada Caldwell and A'lyric Whitfield jumped out to an early 6-0 lead, and the Lady Tigers never backed down on either end of the court as they carried a big 12-2 lead into the second quarter. Elba remained in command early in the stanza and owned a 19-9 lead with 4:06 left in the half after a Whitfield basket. However, the Lady Panthers staged a rally in the closing minutes and when the teams went in at intermission the Lady Tigers lead had been cut to 23-18.

A'lyric Whitfield and Tajah Purvis both drained three-pointers early in the

third quarter to push Elba's lead to 29-18, and after a basket by Georgiana with 4:03 left in the stanza, the aggressive Lady Tiger defense completely shut down the Lady Panthers, and led by Yada Caldwell and Purvis closed the quarter on a 15-0 run to carry a 44-21 advantage into the fourth quarter. The pace slowed offensively in the final stanza as both teams paraded to the foul line, but the Lady Tigers never lost command and punched their ticket to the regional tournament with the solid 55-30 win.

A'lyric Whitfield scored 26 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Tajah Purvis 9, Yada Caldwell 8, Ayrika Caldwell 4, Brooke Tinsley 2, Ana Caldwell 2, Ny'Asia McCollough 2 and Kendra Juarez 2. Lilli Bogan led Georgiana with 13 points.

## Lady Tiger JV post one win in Ozark softball tournament

The Elba Lady Tigers opened their softball season last weekend at a junior varsity tournament in Ozark and posted one win in five games in the 10-team event.

The Lady Tigers opened tournament action Friday night with a 9-8 loss to Cottonwood. Elba owned an 8-1 lead in the second inning, but couldn't hold and lost the opener on a walk off hit. Mary Brooklyn O'Neal had 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi's to lead the Lady Tigers, while Jadyn Caldwell added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 rbi; Zaniyah Mitchell added 1 hit and scored 1 run; and, Taylor Day scored 2 runs.

The Lady Tigers saw an early 5-2 lead slip away in a 7-6 loss to Carroll. Hillary Hudson had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba, while Mary Brooklyn O'Neal added 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Payton Parks scored 2 runs.

The Lady Tigers concluded pool play with

a 1-0 loss to Northside Methodist. Zaniyah Mitchell had 2 hits to lead Elba in the loss.

The Lady Tigers got in the win column with a solid 8-2 win over Pike County. The Lady Tigers trailed 2-0 early, but pulled ahead in the bottom of the first inning and then pulled away to stay alive in the tourney. Hillary Hudson had 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 3 rbi's to lead Elba, while Mary Brooklyn O'Neal had 1 hit, scored 2 runs and had 1 rbi; Jadyn Caldwell added 1 hit and scored 1 run; and, Zaniyah Mitchell scored 2 runs.

The Lady Tigers ran out of gas in their third game on Saturday afternoon and were eliminated with an 18-0 loss to Northside Methodist. Hillary Hudson and Mary Brooklyn O'Neal both reached base on a walk, while Northside Methodist took advantage of five walks and seven errors to bounce the Lady Tigers.



Elba Lady Tiger Kendra Juarez (25) gets ready to head to the basket in last week's sub-region win over Georgiana.  
(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

## Wilson ties for medalist

Tiger golfers open season with  
3rd place finish in 15-team event

The Elba Tiger golfers opened their season last week with a third place finish in a 15-team event at the Enterprise Country Club.

Elba's Jay Wilson fired a 75 to share medalist honors in the 18-hole event, which was won by Opp, which fired a team score of 335 and won in a tie-breaker

over Pike Liberal Arts. Elba had a team score of 342.

Other teams in the event were Enterprise JV Blue, Andalusia, Rehobeth Blue, Providence Christian, Enterprise Junior, Wicksburg, Enterprise JV White, Rehobeth White, Pleasant Home, Samson and Geneva.

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## SPORTS NEWS



Zion Chapel Rebel Gunner Jacobs (22) prepares to pitch in recent JV baseball action.

(Photo by Amanda Clark)



New Brockton Gamecock Riley Simmons (11) waits for a pop up to cove down in season opener against Houston Academy.

(Photo by Ashley Bertsch)

\*\*\* Baseball \*\*\* Softball \*\*\*

## SCHEDULES

Thursday, Feb. 23 (Baseball)	Brantley at Luverne JV
Elba at Geneva County JV-V	(Softball)
New Brockton at Zion Chapel JV-V	Brantley at Georgiana V
Emmanuel Christian at Kinston V	Tuesday, Feb. 28 (Baseball)
(Softball)	Geneva at Elba JV-V
Emmanuel Christian at Kinston V	New Brockton at Carroll JV-V
Friday, Feb. 24 (Baseball)	Red level at Kinston JV-V
Elba at Luverne V	Charles Henderson at Zion Chapel V
Zion Chapel at New Brockton JV-V	(Softball)
(Softball)	Elba at Florala JV-V
Zion Chapel, at Slocomb Tournament	Geneva at Kinston JV-V
Saturday, Feb. 25 (Baseball)	Thursday, March 2 (Baseball)
Brantley JV, at Straughn Tournament	Elba at Carroll V
(Softball)	Zion Chapel at Elba JV (DH)
Zion Chapel, at Slocomb Tournament	Daleville at New Brockton V
Monday, Feb. 27 (Baseball)	New Brockton at Opp JV (DH)
New Brockton at Elba JV (DH)	Kinston at W.S. Neal V
New Brockton at Kinston V	(Softball)
	Florala at Elba JV-V
	Emmanuel Christian at New Brockton V
	Luverne at Brantley V
	Ariton at Zion Chapel JV-V

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Kinston Lady Bulldogs pose with runner-up plaque after posting a 4-2 record in last week's junior varsity softball tournament, in Ozark. The Lady Bulldogs lost in the finals after playing three straight games in the ten team tournament.

\*\* Baseball \*\* Softball \*\*

## DIAMOND DUST

Statistics by GameChanger

## VARSITY BASEBALL:

## Houston Academy 19 New Brockton 3

The New Brockton Gamecocks carried a 3-1 lead into the fifth inning, but saw the wheels fall off the wagon and needed seven pitchers to reach the finish line in a 19-3 season opening loss to the Houston Academy Raiders. Colton McClenny had two hits and scored one run to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Gabe Herrington had one hit and scored one run, Riley Simmons had one hit and one rbi, and Hayden Pope and Dawson Peacock both added one hit.

## Charles Henderson 9 Kinston 0

The Kinston Bulldogs managed only one hit and committed six errors in a 9-0 season opening loss to Charles Henderson. Cale Sumblin had the only Bulldog hit in the loss, while Owen Patterson, Tripp Hawthorne and CJ Lunsford all reached on walks.

## JUNIOR VARSITY BASEBALL:

## New Brockton 4 Zion Chapel 2

The New Brockton Gamecocks used a 3-run third inning to grab the lead and held on late to open the season with a 4-2 win over the Zion Chapel Rebels. Gavin Hand had two hits, including a double and scored one run to lead the Gamecocks, while Brody Collins added 1 hit and had 1 rbi, and Bryant Crumpler added a double. Jacob Fisher was the winning pitcher as he tossed three innings and allowed one hit and one earned run, while striking out eight. Dalton Holloway got the save as he pitched two innings and allowed one earned run, while striking out six. Zion Chapel was led at the plate by Brayden Benbow with one hit, one run scored and one rbi, while John Foster Hamm scored one run.

## New Brockton 10 Highland Home 7

The New Brockton Gamecocks jumped out to an 8-0 lead and held on to defeat Highland Home 10-7. Josh LaCross had 2 hits, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi's to lead the Gamecocks, while William Adkison added 1 hit and 2 rbi's, Landin Norris added 1 hit and scored 1 run, and James Wood added 1 hit.

## Pike Liberal Arts 7 New Brockton 6

The New Brockton Gamecocks rallied from an early 5-2 deficit to grab a 6-5 fourth inning lead, but couldn't hold on late in a 7-6 loss to Pike Liberal Arts. Landin Norris had 2 hits, scored 1 run and had 1 rbi to lead the Gamecocks, while Robert Boutwell added 2 hits and scored 1 run, Jacob Fisher added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 rbi; and, William Adkison added 1 hit and 2 rbi's.

## New Brockton 13 Ariton 12

The New Brockton Gamecocks scored five runs in their final at-bat to outscore Ariton 13-12. Dawson Peacock had 2 hits, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi's to lead the Gamecocks, while Josh LaCross added 1 hit and 3 rbi's, Landin Norris added 1 hit and scored 1 run, William Adkison added 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Kylen Radcliffe and Jacob Fisher both scored 2 runs.

## Pike Liberal Arts 4 New Brockton 1

The New Brockton Gamecocks fell behind early and never caught up in a 4-1 loss to Pike Liberal Arts. Gavin Hand scored 1 run to lead the Gamecocks, while Bryant Crumpler and Dalton Holloway both reached base on a walk.

## Ariton 12 Zion Chapel 6

The Zion Chapel Rebels saw a 5-3 third inning lead slip

away in a 12-6 loss to Ariton. John Foster Hamm had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Rebels, while Trent Elrod added 1 hit and 1 rbi, and Brody Sheets added 1 hit and scored 1 run.

## JUNIOR VARSITY SOFTBALL:

## Kinston 8 Dale County 7

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs jumped out to an early 7-0 lead in an 8-7 win over Dale County, in tourney action at Ozark. Camdyn Norris had 2 hits, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi's to lead Kinston, while Sara Kate Danford added 1 hit, scored 2 runs and had 1 rbi; and Madisyn Jones added 1 hit and scored 2 runs.

## Kinston 10 New Brockton 0

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs combined two hits with nine walks in a 10-0 win over New Brockton. Molly Kate Weeks had 2 hits to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Taylor McKinney scored 3 runs, and Camdyn Norris scored 2 runs and tossed a two-inning no-hitter with three strikeouts.

## Pike Liberal Arts 4 Kinston 3

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs fell in their final at-bat in a 4-3 loss to Pike Liberal Arts. Sara Kate Danford had 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 rbi to lead Kinston, while Taylor McKinney added 1 hit and had 2 rbi's.

## Kinston 7 Headland 6

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs used a five-run second inning to grab the lead and held on to defeat Headland 7-6. Molly Kate Weeks had 1 hit and had 3 rbi's to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Camdyn Norris added 1 hit and 2 rbi's and Sara Kate Danford scored 2 runs.

## Kinston 9 Northside Methodist 8

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs pulled ahead early and held on late to post an exciting 9-8 win over Northside Methodist. Madisyn Jones had 2 hits, scored 3 runs and had 1 rbi to lead Kinston, while Camdyn Norris added 2 hits, scored 3 runs and had 1 rbi; Taylor McKinney added 2 hits and scored 2 runs; Sara Kate Danford added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 rbi; and, Molly Kate Weeks added 1 hit and had 2 rbi's.

## Pike Liberal Arts 10 Kinston 0

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs were forced to settle for the runner-up trophy in the 10-team Ozark tournament as they ran out of gas in their third straight game in a 10-0 championship game loss to Pike Liberal Arts. Madisyn Jones was Kinston's only base runner in the loss as she was hit by a pitch.

## Brantley 11 Luverne 1

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs led all the way in an 11-1 win over Luverne. Marley Kilcrease had 2 hits, scored 3 runs and had 1 rbi to lead Brantley, while Aariyah Stamps added 1 hit, scored 2 runs and had 1 rbi; Alex Grimes added 1 hit, scored 2 runs and had 1 rbi; Adalida Latham added 1 hit and scored 2 runs; and, Lydia Sowell added 1 hit and 1 rbi.

## Brantley 2 G.W. Long 1

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs used a two-run fourth inning to grab the lead and held on to defeat G.W. Long 2-1. Alex Grimes had 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead Brantley, while Anna Free added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 2 rbi's; and, Lydia Sowell and Summer Simmons both added 1 hit.

## Brantley 8 Geneva 5

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs completed the tourney sweep with an 8-5 win over Geneva. No individual stats were available.

## Dale County 8 New Brockton 7

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks saw an early 7-1 lead vanish in an 8-7 loss to Dale County. Ariana Smith had 2 hits, scored 2 runs and had 2 rbi's to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Gaby Eubanks added 1 hit and scored 2 runs, Ally Zorn added 1 hit and 1 rbi, and Reese Danford added 1 hit and scored 1 run.

## Pike Liberal Arts 12 New Brockton 1

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks saw an early 1-0 lead slip away in a 12-1 loss to Pike Liberal Arts. Gabby Eubanks, Reese Danford and Ariana Smith all drew a base on balls in the loss, as New Brockton failed to get a hit.

## Cottonwood 12 New Brockton 0

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks never found their way to the plate in a 12-0 loss to Cottonwood. Ariana Smith, Ella McPhail and Brooklyn Downing all had 1 hit to lead New Brockton.

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